

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL NATURAL RESOURCES SOUTHEAST REGION 263 13th Avenue South, Suite 177 St. Petersburg, FL 33701 727.824.5362 - FAX: 727.824.5376

May 26, 2015

Ms. Willa Brantley
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
Bureau of Wetlands Permitting
1141 Bayview Avenue
Biloxi, MS 39530
Willa.Brantley@dmr. ms.gov

Dear Ms. Brantley:

Thank you for your quick reach out to us upon receipt of the letter we submitted to you on May 21, 2015, addressing the consistency of four proposed Phase IV early restoration projects with Mississippi's Coastal Management Program (MCP). This letter serves to confirm that the determinations presented to Mississippi for review via our letter were for the purposes of supporting the possible future selection of these projects as part of an early restoration planning process being conducted under the Oil Pollution Act. We understand that each of these projects, if selected, will undergo additional development and design prior to implementation, and that the details of the projects remain subject to further reviews for MCP consistency prior to implementation, as appropriate.

Sincerely,

Stephanie L. Willis Senior Attorney

cc Harriet M. Deal, United States Department of the Interior Gary M. Fremerman, United States Department of Agriculture James Bove, United States Environmental Protection Agency